



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,149	02/26/2002	Michael E. Farrell	D/A0550	3421

7590

12/03/2003

Lawrence Harbin
McIntyre Harbin & King
Suite 330
One Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

EXAMINER

LE, TOAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2863

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/082,149

Applicant(s)

FARRELL ET AL.

Examiner

Toan M Le

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

Please label the blocks in figures 3-4.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Covert et al..

Referring to claim 1, Covert et al. disclose in a multi-modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules having an event log 53 (figure 1) indicative of operational events 148 (figure 4) and an associated time stamp 147 (figure 4) thereof, a method of providing an integrated log for a selected configuration comprising: generating a configuration log for the modular device that includes entries 45 (figure 4) indicating at least one of an identity 145 (figure 4), arrangement, and time of introduction or removal of modules relative to the device (col. 7, lines 1-2); merging the event and configuration logs to create an integrated log (col. 5, lines 63-65); delineating entries in the integrated log according to a selected configuration (col. 7, line 5); and presenting the delineated entries to uniquely identify data entries corresponding to the selected configuration (col. 7, lines 7-8).

As to claim 2, Covert et al. disclose in a multi-modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules having an event log 53 (figure 1) indicative of operational events 148 (figure 4) and an associated time stamp 147 (figure 4) thereof, wherein

Art Unit: 2863

presenting the data entries includes providing the entries in readable format utilizing a log viewing application (col. 7, line 9; col. 8, lines 1-2).

Referring to claim 3, Covert et al. disclose in a multi-modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules having an event log 53 (figure 1) indicative of operational events 148 (figure 4) and an associated time stamp 147 (figure 4) thereof, wherein the presenting step includes demarcating selected entries in the integrated log according to a selected configuration (col. 8, lines 3-5; figure 4).

As to claim 4, Covert et al. disclose in a multi-modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules having an event log 53 (figure 1) indicative of operational events 148 (figure 4) and an associated time stamp 147 (figure 4) thereof, further including transmitting the integrated log to a remote server to assist in remote diagnosis (col. 6, lines 43-46).

Referring to claim 5, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log comprising: providing and maintaining a configuration log indicative of respective configuration changes in the imaging system (col. 3, lines 11-14; col. 5, lines 12-15), providing respective error logs of swappable modules that record operational events and a time of occurrence of the operational events (col. 5, lines 4-6), and based on contents of the configuration log and error logs, generating the integrated log in a way that demarcates operational events according to a selected configuration (col. 5, lines 4-8).

As to claim 6, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log further comprising providing remote display of the integrated log (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 3).

Referring to claim 7, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log further comprising storing a representation of the configuration and error logs in a server remote from the imaging system and accessing the server to provide the integrated log (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 3).

Referring to claim 8, Covert et al. disclose in a modular device 2 (figure 1) having interchangeable modules the include associated event logs indicative of operational events relative to the modules, a method of providing an integrated log of events according to a selected configuration comprising: providing a configuration log indicative of changing configurations of the modular device (col. 5, lines 12-15), merging the event and configuration logs to produce a combined log, segmenting entries in the combined log according to configuration information (col. 5, lines 63-65), and presenting information of operational events according to a selected one of multiple configurations (col. 7, lines 7-8).

As to claim 9, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log wherein the configuration log includes entries indicative of an addition, removal, or repositioning of the modules, the configuration log being stored in a central controller of the device, and wherein compiling the configuration log includes storing a unique code upon each occurrence of the addition, removal, or repositioning of the modules within the device (col. 4, lines 29-67).

Referring to claim 10, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log including time and date stamping of each of the unique codes (col. 6, lines 9-14).

As to claim 11, Covert et al. disclose in an electrophotographic imaging system 2 (figure 1) that includes swappable modules, a method of providing an integrated event log wherein presenting the data entries associated with the given configuration includes rendering the integrated log into a readable form (col. 7, lines 7-8).

Referring to claim 12, Covert et al. disclose a reconfiguration modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules, the modular device comprising: a controller 26/54/128 (figures 1-2) that conveys data and control signals with the modules, the modules including a logging service that stores a first set of entries corresponding to service related events (col. 3, lines 8-14); the controller including a routine that effects monitoring at least one addition, deletion, and repositioning of the modules and generating a second set of entries in response to an addition, deletion, or repositioning of the modules (col. 6, lines 1-14); and a log viewer that accesses the first and second sets of entries to output an integrated log displaying selected operational events according to a given configuration of the device (col. 6, lines 1-16).

As to claim 13, Covert et al. disclose a reconfiguration modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules, the modular device wherein the modular device comprises an electrophotographic imaging machine 2 (figure 1).

Referring to claim 14, Covert et al. disclose a reconfiguration modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules, the modular device wherein the

Art Unit: 2863

image machine includes a plurality of modules (figure 1), each of which including a service event monitor that monitors and transmits service related event codes to the logging service (col. 3, lines 10-14; col. 5, lines 16-38).

As to claim 15, Covert et al. disclose a reconfiguration modular device 2 (figure 1) capable of interchangeably receiving one or more modules, the modular device further including an I/O interface that enables conveyance of the first and the second sets of entries to a server remote from the imaging machine whereby to facilitate remote diagnosis (col. 6, lines 1-16 and lines 43-46).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 6,598,011 to Howards Koritzinsky et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan M Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (703) 308-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

Toan Le

November 17, 2003


John Barlow
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800